

"The flowers mostly, my lady." "Don't call me 'my lady'—don't call me 'my lady,' Mary; 'tis not my title." "I won't then—mum."

Edmund would be sure so be at her side that evening, and by his denials, and his disproofs of the strange woman's assertions, set her heart quite at rest; and this showed that Helen still doubted, notwithstanding that she had told herself that she did not. At all events, she resolved and re-resolved, to bear the wearing away of the long, long day before her, quietly and patiently.

sequently became a traitor to his country, and a renegade to his publicly-expressed principles, such an act of political tergiversation but renders all the more striking the significance of his sentiments, whilst he was still apparently uncorrupted. If the claim of the British Parliament to make laws for Ireland, was "a daring usurpation" in 1782, no honest mind can conceive how such a claim could become right or valid in 1800: unless by a process of reasoning, familiar only to knaves or dupes.

Ireland, and that if English statesmen were wise enough now to raise Ireland once again to the dignity and freedom of a nation, England would find her account in the affectionate sympathies and willing support of a brave and generous people, instead of being weakened and straitened by the smouldering jealousy and ill-suppressed disaffection of an unhappy because dissatisfied province.

Thomas Moore, might be said with equal truth of Daniel O'Connell: "Although nothing could be warmer or more constant than his love for Ireland, he never could look with complacency on the attempts at Revolution by force."

(To be Continued.)

HOME RULE.—VII.

THE ERA OF INDEPENDENCE.

The spirit of the country was now raised to the most dangerous pitch of excitement. Public meetings were everywhere held, not only of the various volunteer corps, but also of other representative bodies, not partaking of the military character; and all unanimously adopted the sentiment of the Dunganon Delegates. At a meeting of the freemen and freeholders of Dublin, convened by the High Sheriff of the city on the 15th of March, 1782, an address to their Parliamentary representatives, Sir Samuel Branstetter, Recorder (afterwards one of the Justices of the Court of Queen's Bench), and Travers Hatley, was agreed to, calling on them to assist in procuring an unequivocal declaration "that the King, Lords, and Commons of Ireland are the only power competent to make laws to bind this country."

The British Parliament now proceeded to repeal the English statute, commonly called the Declaratory Act of the 6th of George I. The statute by which this Act was repealed partly runs thus: "Whereas an Act was passed in the 6th year of the reign of his late Majesty, King George the First, entitled an Act for the better securing the dependency of the kingdom of Ireland upon the crown of Great Britain, may it please your Most Excellent Majesty that the above-mentioned Act, and the several matters and things therein contained, shall be, and is, and are hereby repealed."

On the 29th of May sentence was pronounced against O'Connell and his fellow-conspirators. The Government was determined that he should suffer the humiliation of an imprisonment. That imprisonment was to last 12 months; he was to pay a fine of £2000, and to enter into security and recognizances for his future good behaviour for seven years in the sum of £5000. The other traversers were sentenced to imprisonment during nine months; but were fined and compelled to find securities in a much smaller amount.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE. The Irish Municipal Elections.—The Freeman says:—The election of Mayors for the Irish municipalities took place on Friday, December 1st. In the metropolis the Corporation confirmed their former nomination and elected Mr. Dublin. Mr. Dublin belongs to the Conservative party, but in his speech yesterday he announced himself the advocate of Home Rule and Denominational Education.

CHAPTER XXXV.

Almost immediately after her interview with Nelly Carty, Helen, as may be remembered, wrote a letter, calling her husband from Dublin, merely upon information derived from a very respectable source, that he was, or had been, unfaithful to her, by professing to love another.

The public replies of both members to this address are well worthy of being recorded. Burgh, in his answer, said that when he reflected on his past Parliamentary conduct, it afforded him the highest satisfaction to find that it entirely corresponded with the tenor of their instructions whilst Fitzgibbon, without any reserve, declared in the most unequivocal language, "I have always been of opinion that the claim of the British Parliament to make laws for this country is a daring usurpation on the rights of a free people, and have uniformly asserted this opinion both in public and in private."

But O'Connell's energies were already enfeebled by age—for he was nearly 70—and by the insidious working of disease. The peasantry of Ireland were ready to support him in any move, and they had displayed for several years past an admirable fidelity of purpose, and had bravely faced eviction and spoliation, bailiffs, attorneys, police, and landlords, in the performance of their political duties.

What Earl Russell has said of Ireland, and that if English statesmen were wise enough now to raise Ireland once again to the dignity and freedom of a nation, England would find her account in the affectionate sympathies and willing support of a brave and generous people, instead of being weakened and straitened by the smouldering jealousy and ill-suppressed disaffection of an unhappy because dissatisfied province.